

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

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TAGS:

SUBJECT: GDR CULTURAL DELEGATION RETURNS

REF: BERLIN 5804

1. GDR CULTURAL DELEGATION RETURNED ON MAY 6 AND WAS MET AT SCHOENEFELD AIRPORT BY THE PAO - THE CHARGE WAS BRIEFING A NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE GROUP - AND SEVERAL OFFICIALS, THE HIGHEST BEING DR. FOERSTER OF THE MINHIGHED. DELEGATION HEAD DEPUTY MINISTER HEIDORN, DR. KINDZORRA AND PROF. SCHAEFER ALL FROM MINHIGHED, AND DR. BETTIN FROM MFA, WERE ESCORTED INTO A NEWLY-CONSTRUCTED VIP LOUNGE, WITH AIR-CONDITIONING AND LARGE TABLE COVERED WITH THE USUAL VARIETY OF EE REFRESHMENTS. AS EVERYONE WAS SEATED, KINDZORRA BEGAN TO BABBLE AWAY ABOUT " OUR GOOD AND BAD EXPERIENCES," AND WAS CUT SHORT BY HEIDORN WHO SAID SHARPLY " THE HEAD OF THE DELEGATIO MAKES TH REPORT." WHICH HE THNE PROCEEDED TO DO FOR ONE HOUR.

2. HEIDORN BEGAN WITH WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS " TWO EMBARRASSING AND UNPLEASANT EXPERIENCES," THE FIRST AT PRINCETON, WHERE HE APPARENTLY WANTED TO LOOK FOR AN AWARD IN THE ENSTEIN ARCHIVES MADE TO THE GREAT PHYSICIST BY HEIDORN'S UNIVERSITY OF ROSTOCK. HEIDORN SAID A HOSTILE WOMAN AT THE INSTITUE FO ADVANCED STUDES REFUSED HIM PERMISSIO, WHICH HE SAID ALSO EMBARRASSED DR. ALLEN

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KASSOF WHO HAD TRIED TO ARRANGE IT. THE SECOND OCCURRED AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, TO WHOSE GERMAN DEPARTMENT HEIDORN AND THE DELEGATION WISHED TO DONATE NINE PACKAGES OF BOOKS AND AGAIN THEY WERE MET WITH HOSTILITY AND " AGGRESSIVE QUESTIONING," HEIDORN SAID ALL DECIDED NOT TO STAY ONE MINUTE LONGER, EVEN THOUGH COLUMBIA WAS OF GREAT INTEREST TO THEM.

3. MIT, HARVARD, CUNY AND GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WERE QUITE DIFFERENT EXPERIENCES, HE CONTINUED, AND EVERY-ONE WAS SYMPATHETIC AND CURIOUS WHICH SHOWED A GENUINE AND OBJECTIVE INTEREST IN THE GDR. AT THIS POINT, THE PAO OFFERED APOLOGIES FOR THE UNPLEASANT EXPERIENCES AND ASKED WHETHER IN BOTH CASES THE DELEGATION HAD MADE KNOWN ITS WISHES ADEQUATELY IN ADVANCE, WHEREUPON HEIDRON REPLIED THAT IT HAD NOT BUT MOST CERTAINLY COULD NOT REPROACH EITHER IREX OR DR. KASSOF.

4. IN WASHINGTON, HEIDORN SAID, THE DELEGATION WAS GIVEN PRINCELY TREATMENT, BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DUFFY, BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY NVINE, BY THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION, BY ALL WASHINGTON OFFICIALS THEY CAME INTO CONTACT WITH, ESPECIALLY AT CU, AND AGAIN BY EVERYONE WHO ATTENDED GDR AMBASSADOR SIEBER'S RECEPTION - " WHICH COINCIDED WITH THE TELEVISION INTERVIEW WITH NIXON, FOR WHICH DR. SIEBER HAD INSTALLED TV SETS." HEIDORN FOUND WASHINGTON AT ALL LEVELS RECEPTIVE TO EXPANDED CULTURAL RELATIONS, BUT WHEN ADVISED THAT A CULTURAL AGREEMENT COULD BE SIGNED ONLY AFTER A CONSULAR CONVENTION, HEIDORN SAID HE WAS NOT COMPETENT TO DISCUSS THE MATTER AND IT WAS DROPPED.

5. HEIDORN AND THE OTHERS HAD NOTHING BUT WONDER TO REPORT ABOUT THEIR CULTURAL ACTIVITIES; AT LINCOLN CENTER, KENNEDY CENTER, THE NATIONAL GALLERY, THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION AND THE SPACE MUSEUM. CONCERNING THE LATTER THREE, HEIDORN AND BETTIN WAXED POETIC ABOUT THE RICH VARIETY AND SIMULTANEOUS SIMPLICITY, APPEALING BOTH TO CHILD AND ADULT. FOR THE REPRODUCTION OF THE SISTINE CHAPEL THEY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EXPRESSED AWE. THEY ALL THOUGHT " BUBBLING BROWN SUGAR" SIMPLY SENSATIONAL.

6. HEIDORN FINALLY GOT AROUND TO TALKING ABOUT THE NEW IREX AGREEMENT, WHICH HE SAID WAS ARRIVED AT THROUGH VERY HARD BARGAINING BY DR. KASSOF - " A VERY TOUGH NEGOTIATOR." HEIDORN EXPRESSED SATISFACTION OVER THE FINAL AGREEMENT WHICH, HE SAID, WAS NOT THE 50 MAN-MONTHS THE GDR WANTED BUT WAS GOOD ENOUGH INASMUCH AS IT DOUBLED THE PRESENT 20. HE SAID SOME PROBLEMS APPARENTLY HAD TO BE IRONED OUT, " WHICH YOU MOST CERTAINLY ARE AWARE OF," BUT AHA! ONCE THEY WERE RESOLVED, ALL COULD RELAX OVER CHAMPAGNE ON MAY 5. PIPE CLENCHED BETWEEN HIS TEETH, HEIDORN TURNED TO KINDZORRA AND ASKED NASTILY WHETHER ANYTHING HAD BEEN OMITTED, BUT KINDZORRA SHRIVELLED UP EVEN MORE; SCHAEFER CONTINUED HIS SILENCE WHILE BETTIN CONTINUED TO MURMUR APPROVAL.

7. WALKING TO THE CAR, THE PAO SAID THAT TWO RELATED DEVELOPMENTS WERE PLEASANT TO REPORT, THE MORE IMPORTANT BEING THE ISSUANCE OF

A SIX-MONTH VISA TO DR. JOAN HOLMES. ALL EXCHANGED SIGNIFICANT LOOKS, AND HEIDRON SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THERE WAS HIGH LEVEL INTEREST IN THE CASE, AND WHEN ASKED TO ELABORATE RESPONDED THAT THE PROBLEMS HAD BEEN BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER AND WITH A TOTALLY MIRTHLESS GRIN SAID " THAT IS QUITE HIGH, DON'T YOU THINK?" PAO THEN MENTIONED THAT LAST MORNING HE HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT THE 1000 BOOKS FOR HUMBOLDT UNIVERSITY WERE SCHEDULED FOR PRESENTATION MAY 10 TO THE RECTOR, TO WHICH KINDZORRA MUMBLED THAT HE WONDERED WHY THAT HAD TAKEN SO LONG. GETTING INTO HIS CAR AND ALONE FOR ONE MOMENT, BETTIN SAID " FROM NOW ON YOU WILL BE DEALING WITH A QUITE DIFFERENT BETTING - A MAN WHO HAS SEEN THE UNITED STATES."

8. IN ITS WEEKEND EDITION , PARTY ORGAN " NEUES DEUTSCHLAND" REPORTED THE SIGNING OF A CONTINUING IREX AGREEMENT WITHOUT MENTION OF EXPANSION, AS WELL AS HEIDONR'S MEETING WITH ASST. SECRETARY DUFFEY.
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